

TALKING ITALIAN TILES ■ JORIS LAARMAN'S BONE PROJECT ■ WOOD VENEERS

casa viva

INDIA

ITALY'S LEADING INTERIORS AND DESIGN MAGAZINE

DECEMBER 2015, ₹ 125

VOL. 7 ISSUE 12



HOME PROJECT
A WINTER
WONDERLAND

INDULGE!

18

picks for the
season

**christmas
cheer**

[GO FESTIVE!]

PLUS

PERIOD CHARM
IN GUILDFORD

SHANTANU GARG'S
ABSTRACT FORMS

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IN MILAN

MAKEOVER

a fifties' home in
rome becomes a loft



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December 2015



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It's the season to be creative!

We all know tiles are big on innovation, even luxury, some of them embellished with gold tints and other precious metals. But, at the recent Cersaie fair in Bologna, Italy, one saw art popping out from different stalls, from visiting the classic greats to hand-drawn patterns and, yes, a manga theme by Japanese artist Kazuhiko Kat. There were also collaborations with designers on view, such as Bisazza teaming up with Patricia Urquiola, Tom Dixon and India Mahdavi, among others.

December is synonymous with holiday cheer and to kickstart the festivities, we bring you a Christmas-ready home in Gurgaon. There are several simple ideas for the house, like wrapping dry branches with fairy lights to create a ceiling installation. Or simply take a look at the home, with its miniature cosy log huts, wreaths, embroidered stockings, wooden reindeer and get into the mood to welcome Santa. We also visited interior designer and former model Aanchal Gulati Nath's south Delhi home, which embodies casual chic. The spaces flow seamlessly into each other, sans barriers, creating an illusion of larger spaces. She also shares tips to buy furniture online!

Get into the mood for some festive shopping!

Anuradha Varma
Consulting Editor

STYLE NOTES

Look out for wonderful creations in glass, teakwood bowls, vintage classics reinterpreted as designers break the mould for a new vision.



STYLE NOTES

Furniture and décor accessories combine high craftsmanship with innovation for timeless products.

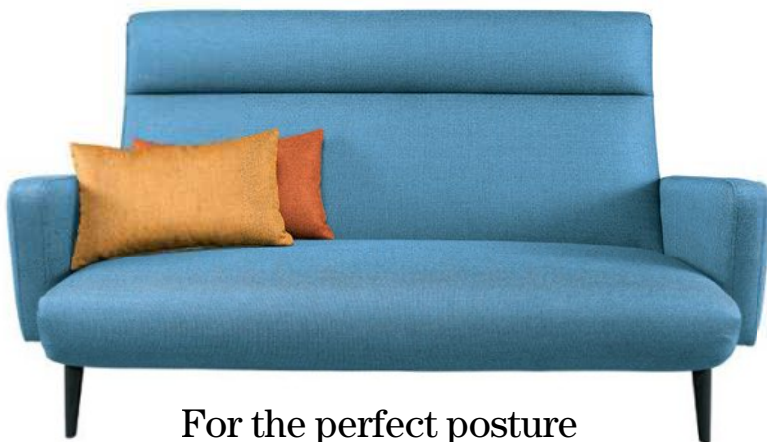


CREATIVE MATERIALS Bookcases and shelves designed by Christophe Boulin for his Galéjade collection use contemporary materials or solid wood to create original innovations. The curves make this a model of serenity.



A METALLIC SHADOW PLAY

The Tull lamp, created by designer Tommaso Caldera for Incipit, comes in a simple and refined design. It's available in two models, table/floor or pendant. Its design is a contemporary reinterpretation of the old lamps that are usually found in workshops. Thanks to the metal cage, the light creates spectacular shadow effects. Copper and nickel combine create a strong and refined look. The colours include turquoise/orange, orange/beige, anthracite/turquoise or black nickel/black and copper-coated/white.



For the perfect posture

The Miguel sofa, designed by Victor Caetano for Azea, recalls the geometric lines of the Fifties and Sixties. Its sleek design and minimalist look is designed to offer excellent comfort, with deep seats and padded headrests for the perfect posture.



Simple utility

This table designed by Wencke Barfoed, available at We Shop, is in powder-coated steel and comes with a removable tray. It fits in easily next to the couch. It's a simple, yet unique design.


STYLISH CARAFES

Tired of serving water in modern jugs? Make a statement with these traditional looking carafes, designed by Cristian Visentin for the brand Broka & Brokina, in copper, galvanized in zinc on the inside.



Artisanal weaves

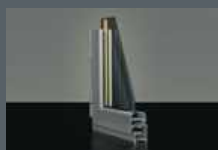
Ifassen launched its home design line in collaboration with designer Amandine Chhor and Moroccan artisans who weave their stories of empowerment, working with several models of baskets and baskets in plastic bags and recycled vegetable fibre.



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STYLE NOTES

Designers create a world full of pops of colour in varied materials

Astute stool

Plektra, designed by Ineke Hans holds the middle ground between side-table and stool. It's made of traditional Finnish material, birch plywood veneer, while coloured items are stain painted. This hybrid design supports Iittala's traditions and offers aesthetic functionality.



COLOUR-CODED INDEX Damian Evans' Index Plus, for Joseph Joseph, is a complimentary product to the Index chopping boards. This simple yet effective system of chopping boards has four colour-coded knives as well as four colour-coded chopping boards.

THE JOY OF COLOUR

Paola C's Table Joy from Aldo Cibic and Matteo Cibic is the result of the collaboration between uncle and nephew. Aldo Cibic's upbeat tableware combines with Matteo Cibic's weird and wonderful glass creatures.



Bamboo dreams

The serving bowl by Simon Trabuc for Bibol combines detailed craftsmanship with a modern, clean look. The 12 layers of natural resin lacquer on hand-bent bamboo makes your bowl hold hot or cold food or beverage, from salads to soups.

Taking on new shape

The FJ Bowl is the smallest of the teakwood bowl series that Finn Juhl designed in 1951. Depending on what angle you look at it from, the bowl changes shape, slowly growing on you. It blends organic shapes and balances wood, form and geometric measurements.



POP MODERNISM

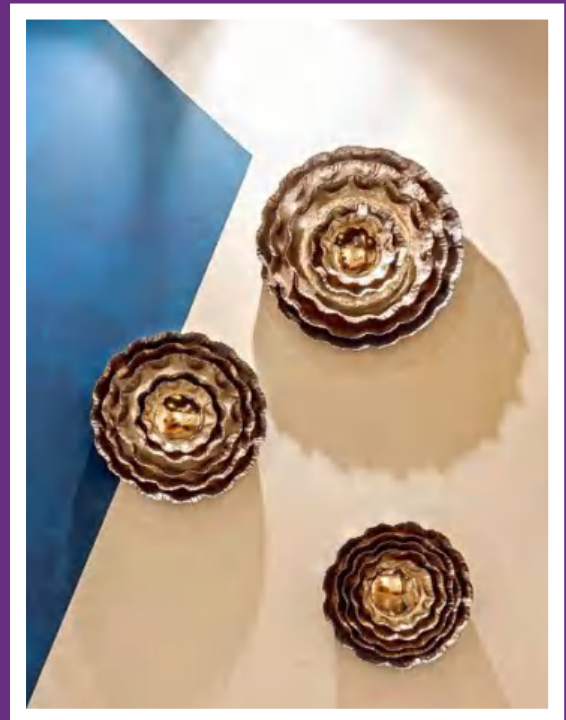
Timothy Schreiber's E-volved table for FueraDentro is organic in composition and smooth to the touch. The graceful, fluid design mimics nature as the three table legs grow and branch together to form a solid base for the table.

SHOPPING & NEWS

It's not Christmas unless you have some red and green in your décor.

We tell you where it's available.

Also check out new launches in furnishings, furniture and accessories.





FINE FABRICS

ARTY WALLS

Zynna's Colette collection, by CTA Fabrics from Italy, offers textile compositions in cotton, linen, viscose, polyester and silk in tones of olive, blue, green, turquoise, red and dove grey. The fabric used is ideal for light upholstery, window treatments and bedcovers. The soothing and subtle colour palettes enhance the classic décor statement. The collection replicates a dramatic watercolour like effect, which is a new trend that enriches the ambience by the use of digital printing technology. It comes in stripes, damask and floral patterns. For more, call +91 8800361361.

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❖ www.theinspiredroom.net Blogger Melissa shares simple, doable decorating ideas. ❖ www.thriftydecorchick.com Check out DIY ideas for the holidays.



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FLORALS

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METALLIC ART

Product designer Ritu Bajaj's brand House Warming on MG Road, Delhi aims at bringing Indian craft and traditional manifestations under one roof. The ornamental pieces made from metal, glass and wood work as art installations and statement pieces in your home. The designs are supported by a manufacturing unit in Moradabad.



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HANDCRAFTED

SIMPLE BEAUTY

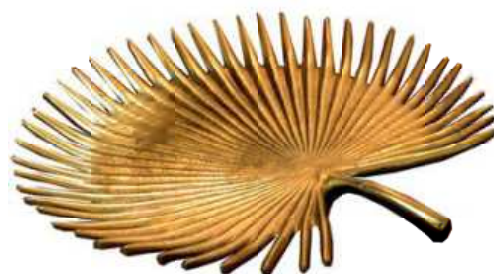
Handcrafted at the foundry in northern France since 1925, the casseroles and tableware from Le Creuset come in premium quality cast iron. For more, visit www.lecreuset.com.



EVENT

A SPIRITED AFFAIR

Zorba the Buddha hosts the New Year International Dance Festival from December 29-January 3, besides other events. For more, email radiate@zorbathebuddha.org.



INDIAN HERITAGE

FORMS IN BRASS

The brass leaf plate (above) comes from Baaya Design, which showcases arts and crafts from across India, while meeting contemporary expectations. For more, visit www.baayadesign.com.

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SHOWCASE

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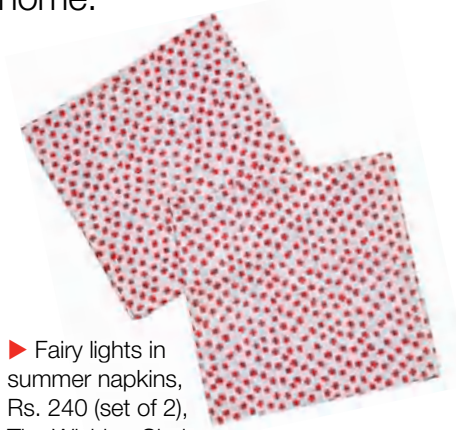
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THE HOUSE OF THE MONTH

A dream project and some smart styling transforms a Fifties' apartment into a spacious loft, after removing the walls and replacing them with glass walls and iron platforms.



create open spaces

**MULTI
FUNCTIONAL**

The living area has a relaxation corner, a dining room and a secluded kitchen. Minimal furniture and sliding walls act as separation elements.



BEFORE-AND-AFTER MOVING SPACES

From a 50s apartment to a loft: The trick is that all the walls have been removed and replaced by glass walls, furniture and iron platforms.

Styling by Cristina Gigli, Photos by Serena Eller, Text by Elena Favetti



SILVIA

Graduate in marketing and communication

Two-room apartment and
bathroom in 86 sqm
Rome



Silvia inherited this house in the Flaminio district in Rome. Despite always having loved it for the atmosphere within this house, she wanted to renovate it to suit her needs. Being a young traveller and music lover, she is always surrounded by friends for whom she enjoys hosting dinners and brunches. Her dream house is one similar to a loft! Architect Andrea Branca created it playing with materials, light and volumes, while stylist Cristina Gigli gave it the personal touch.

TOTAL RELAXATION

At the centre, can be seen the sofa Ghost with removable cover (cm 220x85x80h) by Gervasoni and the round table Gray 42. Pink and mustard pillows by L'Opificio and grey ones by Emporio Roma are also seen. Platform Slope by Miniforms by Magazzini Associati can be seen.



Cristina created a large moodboard by putting wallpaper from Wall & Deco, color charts from Il Ladro di Fragole and tissue samples from Kvadrat on the ground. In order to use the natural light of the apartment, the stylist chose a blue-green palette warmed by yellow-copper touches and soft tissues contrasting with the defined geometries of the furniture.



After removing all the divisions that defined the rooms in the living area, now there is a single large living space that houses a relaxation and dining area (and also the kitchen, as we will see later). The light penetrates the room and plays with the contrasts between the white walls, the pillars, the containers in black metal and the sliding mirrored glass panels. Based on the existing mood, our stylist Cristina has, therefore, chosen white furniture, wood accessories and textural fabric in shades of blue, yellow, pink and grey. The essential piece personally chosen by Silvia is a metal sculpture, Mood, hanging on the wall.

LIGHT... METAL

Rocking armchair Terra in metal sheet and tubular from Atipico (cm 95x66x83h), black hanging bookshelf in iron from Brancalab with vases by Rina Menardi are all seen. Carpet Dye Dye from Kasthall (195x300 cm) table by Emporio Roma, and piece of art on the wall, Mood by Stefano Branca can also be seen.



HOUSE OF THE MONTH



When she comes back from her travels around the world, along with her photographer boyfriend, Silvia always invites her closest friends for dinner get-togethers with themes related to her tours. For this, in the dining area organised behind the relaxation area, she strongly wanted a very large and comfortable table, which she ordered ad hoc in industrial style, for eight to ten people, along with chairs in different colours (all made by Brancalab). Cristina decided to create a setting using a combination of classic effect pieces (the dishes reproduce those of Delft and the wine glasses are in plastic) and contemporary pieces, such as the thin jars that are used as the candlesticks.

NORDIC INSPIRATION

In contrast with the linearity of the table and the geometry defined by the chairs, Cristina decided to dress the table with crumpled pure linen fabric, by Saraille Lapis from Designers Guild.

THE PERFECT SOLUTION FOR THOSE WHO LOVE CONVIVIALITY

The large table, designed in iron and wood, is by Brancalab as are the chairs, for eight to 10 people. Positioned perpendicular to the balcony doors, it creates a minimalist but hyper coloured perspective. The tubular steel chairs are all in different shades and are positioned on the floor made of larch.





HYPER-REFINED MIX & MATCH

Dishes Hybrid from Seletti by Emporio Roma, small white dishes from Studio Job by Mia Via Ripetta, Belle Epoque wine glasses from Guzzini, Bora glasses from Carlo Moretti, cutlery from Sambonet, napkins from La Fabbrica del Lino and vase from Secondome are seen.



AT HAND

On the iron shelves, are glasses, wine glasses and pitcher by Bormioli Rocco, Ovale white dishes from Alessi, tea and bowls are available at Dom. On the Corian top, copper tray by Phil and sculptures in iron wire by Magazzini Associati, jars by Tonale from Alessi, cutting boards from Emporio Roma and apron by Lanificio Leo can be seen.

The kitchen has been resized and shifted to the area between the entrance and the bedroom. L-shaped, with custom furniture in black metal and Corian, the kitchen is only 6 sqm, but it has everything including a snack corner. Here, stylist Cristina chose and arranged all the necessary items for daily lunches on the top shelves. In order to make the room well lit, the architect Branca 'closed' the volume with glass panels (partly fixed, partly sliding), transparent on the kitchen side and mirrored on the living room side, to almost make it look like the space has disappeared by magic. In addition, the wall towards the room is 'buffered' with glass. In order to ensure the right slope for the drainage of water, a platform (always covered in black metal), which occupies the entire central band of the house has been created.

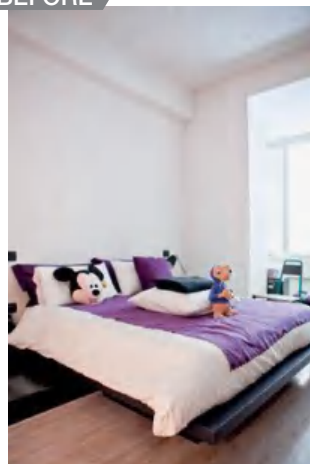


IN VIEW, BUT NOT TOO MUCH

The small but fully equipped kitchen, created in a corner of the living room, is designed with doors and shelves in black metal and, in contrast, a thin top in white Corian. There's room for an organised breakfast area with bistro table and chairs. The wall that faces the corridor, with a width of one metre from the ceiling, is closed by an industrial glass mounted on a metal white grill, all by Brancalab.

During renovation, the bedroom has not changed position, but has become a kind of suite incorporating a dressing room, a bathroom and a study area. All the fixed elements have been designed by the architect Branca and seem to take shape from the platform, covered in metal foil, which runs through the house. The bed and cantilevered nightstands, in fact, are leaded to the platform and, from it, starts the big furniture that, in the corridor, grounds the sinks and, in the bedroom, serves as a cupboard.

BEFORE



A ROOM THAT'S A LITTLE TOO GIRLY

When she moved, Silvia brought in objects that were close to her heart, including the two puppets she had as a child. She laid them on the bed, intimate but unrefined. In addition, the rest of the room was bare and little exploited, especially the bow-window.



GRAPHIC ELEMENTS OF YOUR CHOICE

The graphic upholstery in black and white Upsidedown has been hung to the wall like a framework, from Wall & Deco. On the bed, Carré pillows in yellow and mint decorated with hexagons, from L'Opificio (65x65 cm) and a perforated grey bedspread from Emporio Roma can be seen. The lamp Tatou from Flos and the chair in the study area (above) recall the mood.





THE MAGIC OF A BOW-WINDOW

In the place of the balcony, closed many years ago, a well-lit study area has been created. At the centre, can be seen the desk Grey 50 in blue aviation with two drawers, by Gervasoni (cm 130x45x75h), with the chair Cyborg in polycarbonate with wicker back, from Magis (cm 56x54x82h). On top, notebooks by Fabriano Boutique and lamp from Flos can be seen. On the furniture in front of the bed by Brancalab, photographs from Another Studio, candlestick by Emporio Roma and objects from DOM have been placed.

HOUSE OF THE MONTH



TO DIVIDE BY FUNCTIONS

Between the living room and the bedroom, there is the space which houses the actual bathroom, with fixtures and shower, and the walk-in closet (here on the left, the access door is in metal). In the hallway that leads to the bedroom, the washing area has been prepared with two washbasins in Corian, which resemble the top of a metal storage cabinet, similar to the kitchen's closets, all by Brancalab.

EVERYTHING IS IN ORDER

The metal and Corian furniture allows you to keep in order the whole linen for the bathroom and bedroom. On the top, can be seen a liquid soap dispenser, towels, glass candlestick and soap by Emporio Roma, and more boxes in colourful fantasy cardboard, available at DOM.

With the restructuring, it has been decided that the light had to play a key role and the rooms had to be fluid. For this, the corridor that leads to the sleeping area is not only closed by a glass door (mirrored only on the side of the living room, to ensure privacy), but also has a large piece of furniture with two basins extending right inside the room. In this way, in the bathroom it has been possible to insert a maxi shower and, next to the bed, there is a large walk-in closet.

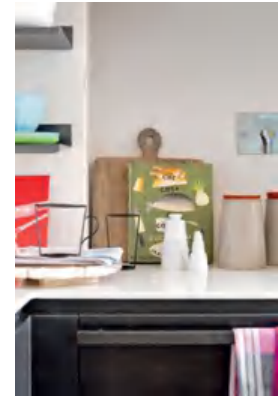


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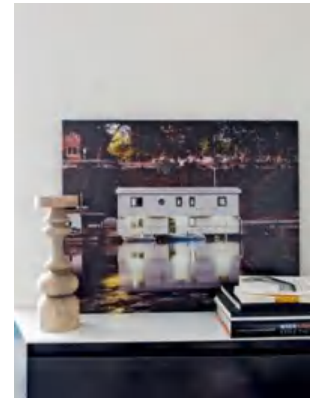
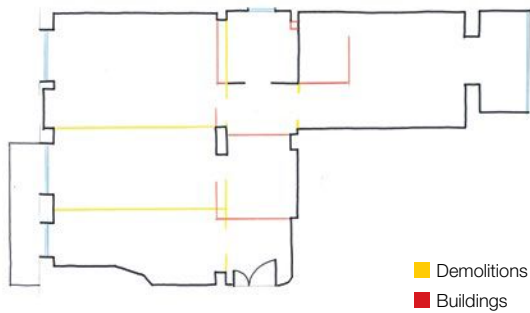


THE PROJECT

The classical division of rooms is absent, in order to create an open space. Instead of the kitchen + dining room + living room model, there is a single living area with kitchenette near the entrance. The room incorporates a bathroom, walk-in closet and study. A technical platform, coated in metal sheet, passes through the house (where before there was the corridor) characterising its style.



THE WORKS



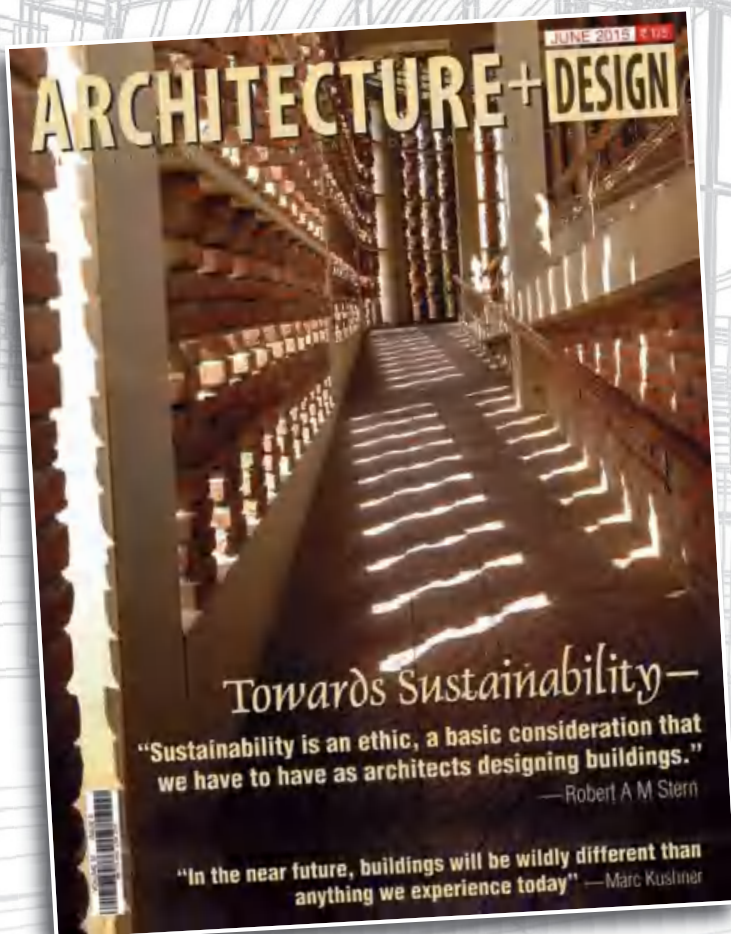
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LIVING SPACES

It's Christmas and our Gurgaon home is ready to welcome Santa! Also visit an interior designer's home in Delhi, which has a cafe-like vibe, besides projects that display a quirky, fresh global appeal.





DECOR IDEAS

AN X'MAS SPIRIT

For Shallay Bartholomew, Christmas is a time to indulge with a traditional tree, wreaths, stockings, reindeers and snowflakes, with the lighting and décor matching the magical theme.

Text by Anuradha Varma, Photos by Yashas Chandra, Produced by Ragini Singh



Christmas is perhaps the best time of the year for design consultant Shalley Bartholomew, who shares her Gurgaon condominium overlooking the Aravali greens with her husband Robin, son Joshua and her mother-in-law. Says Shalley, who designs homes and forecasts trends through her company Inspirato, “Our house is a labour of love. We wanted our home to have a global feel, so sitting here, you could think you were anywhere in the world. It could be Florence in Italy, Santorini in Greece, Scotland or London.” The decor is rustic, with a lot of wood with huge Burma teak doors, rafters on the ceiling, exposed wood furniture (“just hand-stained because we love the imperfections!”). The couple enjoys do-it-yourself projects; for instance, Shalley’s husband Robin took dried branches and wrapped them with fairy garland lights and converted it into a beautiful ceiling installation. The couple loves doing up their home in various themes and Christmas is the most precious time. For Diwali, they light up the entrance with diyas and rangoli. And during Christmas, they put up the crib outside, decorated with wreaths, garlands, poinsettias and red votives. They also love their icicle and snowflake lights, which they put up in the balcony each year.

DO-IT-YOURSELF: The setting of a cosy log hut with a Christmas tree decorated in knitted, felt and wooden ornaments is seen in the living room (facing page). A faux fireplace (right) is visible with embroidered stockings, etc, recreating a forest scene.





A MERRY CHRISTMAS: (Clockwise, from above) A Polish porcelain house lit against a pine forest; Nativity scene created at the entrance of the home; retro wooden Santa Claus and candy canes in a tin tumbler; pine cones, poinsettias, holly berries, pine needle leaves, logs in a tin tub as accents at the door.



“Christmas is magical. Everything is so festive, with stockings near the fireplace, the wait to open gifts.”

DECOR IDEAS



READY FOR D-DAY: (Clockwise, from above) Birchwood reindeer, faux wooden pine trees, candles, votives, come together; the table is set for a Christmas brunch; a mercury glass-finish hurricane has been placed in the alcove; ivy, holly berry branches decorate a vase with votives in the alcove.

PLAYING WITH COLOUR

The living room is kept mostly white, along with beige and brown, with wood and ceramics thrown in. The neutral backdrop helps Shallow play around with colour and various looks through the year. They buy the Christmas tree according to the theme from the US each year. "We have cartons full of ornaments marked theme-wise. If the log hut is the theme, then we put wooden animals and stars, knitted dolls, felt reindeers, berries, pine cone and painted ornaments for that old rustic feel." There are several lamps and "diyas" that dot the apartment. She gives her tips for a Christmas décor, "Keep a general theme, like jewel tones or white and silver or traditional red/ green and white. Select your ornaments according to that; wreaths and garlands can be general green with berries and pine cones. Have a lot of candles, votives, candelabra and glass balls for decoration. Arrange throws to put on the sofas, cushions with Christmas icons like reindeer, mistletoe, trees, etc. Stockings look very authentic, especially to stock small candies for kids. For the final touch, the tree should sport candy canes in front."



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DESIGNER SPACES

Turquoise delight

Interior designer Delphine Estour's fresh and colourful Haussmann apartment in Paris uses turquoise blue as a common thread, happily combining floral wallpapers with classic pieces of furniture and contemporary art.

Text by Tina Horn, Photos by Jean-Marc Wulschleger / Living Agency



“I love this colour as it doesn't go out of style too quickly and is fun to work with.”



In the large living room, Delphine covered the walls with Elitis (multicolour) and Sanderson (floral) wallpaper.

DESIGNER SPACES



“The walls are not conventional, dressed with multiple floral wallpapers.”

The owner Delphine Estour stands before a painting by Ewa Bathelier. In the living room, the marble fireplace and the mirror are original. The antique bust was bought in an antique shop, while the candleholders are from Habitat, the black tube wall lamp is by Jean Prouvé.

Interior designer Delphine Estour moved into this large Haussmann apartment with her family. High ceilings, mouldings and lovely wooden parquet floors gave this family apartment a very traditional base. To break the formal style, Delphine added touches of colours and decided to give it a modern and zesty facelift. The result is a pleasing freshness. Did the venerable Baron Haussmann love turquoise? We will never know, but he would have probably rolled his eyes when discovering that his iconic apartment turned into a giant and fancy candy box. Confesses Delphine, “The traditional Haussmann atmosphere can quickly be overwhelming. I preferred to go against the current.” In the living area, The velvet upholstery is by Pierre Frey (www.pierrefrey.com). The pillows are by Caravane (www.caravane.fr). The birdcage lamp is by Pierre Goncalons, édition Ascète (www.ascete.com/store/pierre-goncalons). The pink cow rug is by Manufacture de Cogolin (manufacturecogolin.com). Turquoise is the main guiding thread, so much on door frames, as in the bedrooms and bathrooms of this vast 200 square metres apartment. “I love this colour; it doesn’t go out of style too quickly and allows me to work on its different shades.”





The desk is by Jacques Hitier, the chair from the 50's and the light is from Gras (www.lampegras.fr/fr). The Ghost armchair is from Gervasoni and Flos floor lamp from Starck Design.



A generous play of volumes

Being an interior designer (www.delphine-estour.com), Delphine moved from Valence (France) to Paris with her husband and four children two years ago. "We used to live in an attic apartment and now we have three-metre high ceilings and huge windows. I fell in love with the volumes, and I had a lot of fun renovating the place. I wanted to de-dramatise, especially since the living room is facing north. It was imperative to give it a note of cheerfulness," she explains. The mix of genres is not limited to the walls. The clean-lined Fifties furniture mixes with stylish velvet chairs; ultra-classic pieces rub shoulders with contemporary artworks. Pop and flashy details slip here and there. In the corridor, you reach a darker universe, but always invigorating, where black is honoured. Here the proof is that this colour is not austere and doesn't reduce the notion of space. Delphine chose the colour black to also create a certain softness, a peaceful atmosphere in the bedrooms. This unusual exciting craziness that reigns throughout the Haussmann apartment shows that it can easily be dressed with colours and that white is not inescapable. The herringbone parquet floor is original.

DESIGNER SPACES

The small stools are from "les cakes de Bertrand". The khaki doors have been painted with the colour Ombre Pelvoux 7618 La Seigneurie (www.seigneurie.be). The elephant used to belong to a merry-go-round.



“I wanted to de-dramatise.
It was imperative to give it a
note of cheerfulness.”





Elegant, with touches of fantasy

For more conviviality, the kitchen opens onto the living room. In the back, the kitchen splash-back is made with enamels from Briare. The kitchen is Ikea, while the cooker and oven are by de Dietrich. Delphine, 47, purchased the apartment three years ago. She recalls, "We needed a big apartment with five bedrooms and an office. And it had to be located between the Lyon railway station and the Gare du Nord railway station." She adds, "We cut one big bedroom into two in order to make an office and two bathrooms. We now have the big master-bedroom in the back with an ensuite dressing room and bathroom." The renovations took around two months. Explains Delphine, "We needed to be very fast with drawing the plans, choosing the colours and materials. I had only seen the apartment twice and we only had two months between signing the documents and before the children's school started." On her inspiration, she says, "The Haussmann style inspires me; it's elegant with touches of fantasy. I like to give it a modern touch, to make it more cheerful while keeping the precious elements of this period, which gives it its charm." She also likes mixing styles. "I deliberately mixed different styles together—contemporary, Fifties', 19th century. I hate the total look. It's also a way to have a home that is not out-dated too fast." And which epoch does she like in contemporary design? "I love all the small pieces of furniture of the Fifties and the start of the design series. Is it easy to balance life and interior design? "Yes, I don't want to be a slave to my interiors and I never choose fragile decoration. I apply this rule to my clients too. My priority is to imagine interiors adapted to my clients way of living."

The dining table was a hatter's table; the industrial chairs as well as the hanging lamps were hunted at L'Isle sur la Sorgue antique market (www.islesurlasorgue.fr/). The painting is by Christine Joulie.



{ “The Haussmann style inspires me, but I like to give it a modern touch.” }



The kitchen is pleasant and cosy. The double kitchen/living room is linked with beautiful glass doors. Delphine likes mixing styles—contemporary, Fifties', 19th century.



Recalling Napoleon III

Haussmann architecture goes back to the era of Napoleon III, who entrusted Baron Georges-Eugene Haussmann to give an identity to the city of Paris and bring order and structure to the chaotic and cramped city. The project involved creating new roads, parks, monuments and basically changing the overall architectural facade of the city. The initiative found support from the public and a modernist Napoleon III was able to achieve one of the largest urban transformations since the burning of London in 1666. According to an article by Emily Kirkman on the website Art History Archive (www.arthistoryarchive.com), "While neither one were trained in the arts, both men had ideas for how they wanted the city to look. Napoleon had a greater interest in the techniques and new materials that were to be used, while Haussmann paid more interest to the aesthetic quality of the modernization project. Yet both men adhered to the classical style, creating a metropolis of neoclassical wonder." To ensure visual unity, Haussmann's austere and modern buildings, with facades constructed out of large stone blocks, changed the face of Paris.



"I fell in love with the volumes and had fun renovating the place."

The Ikea kitchen opens onto the living room, extending the idea of an open, undivided space. The appliances are from de Dietrich.



In the bedroom, the floor has been painted white and the walls are covered with pearly white wallpapers. The Globe lamps are by La Case de Cousin Paul.

The room is bright and cheerful, with the floor in polished concrete.



Large, yet intimate

Delphine's favourite room in the sprawling apartment is the kitchen, she says. It's no surprise since it is linked to the living room with beautiful glass doors, making the transition between the living spaces seamless. She finds the space cosy and intimate. Delphine made the shelves with a painting frame she found in a flea market. The green armchair is by AM-PM (www.laredoute.fr). On the wall, a tagged Manhattan floor plan by an American artist, while the white wall lamp May Day is from Flos. The master bedroom is painted with Flamant "Noir de Lune" paint. The bed-linens are by AMPM, the mirror was originally in the apartment. The small closet belonged to her family. The floor of the daughter's bedroom was painted white and the walls covered with pearly white wallpapers. The globe lamps were sourced from La Case de Cousin Paul (www.lacasedecousinpaul.com/fr). The eldest daughter Celeste's room has an Eames chair, bookworm shelf from Kartell, while the desk was discovered in a second-hand shop and painted. Meanwhile, the youngest daughter Philomena's bedroom has a desk and closet found in a flea market and painted. The floor is in polished concrete.



Delphine had two months to carry out renovations, before her children's school started. She decided to cut one big bedroom into two in order to make an office and two bathrooms. The family now has a big master-bedroom in the back with an ensuite dressing room and bathroom.

HABITAT

CREATIVE STROKES

Interior designer Aanchal Gulati Nath's home in south Delhi is a true reflection of her personal tastes, capturing her love for furniture and a do-it-yourself attitude.

Text by Anuradha Varma, Produced by Ragini Singh, Photos by Yashas Chandra



The three-bedroom home was completely redone by the interior designer and her architect husband. The vibe is fresh, with a café-like ambience.

“AN OLD HOUSE OFFERS MORE CHARACTER AND ALLOWS US TO COMPLETELY REDO EVERYTHING.”



A flair for design

For Aanchal Gulati Nath, a former model, interior design came easily and it helps that her husband Sumeet Nath is an architect and designer. She says, “I have always been fascinated with the world of design. My interest took a big leap when I married Sumeet. He mentored me and made the transition easy and comfortable.”



When one enters interior designer Aanchal Gulati Nath's home in south Delhi, one is welcomed by a cheerful space. The look is modern, colourful and casual, inviting one to settle down on the comfortable sofas for a chat over coffee. The two bedroom apartment, with a living area, study and kitchen covers a carpet area of 1,300 sq ft, but looks much larger, thanks to the way it's been laid out.

For Aanchal, a former model, interior design came easily and was propelled into a profession after marriage to her architect husband. Her first project? “The first home I ever designed was my own, so the best way to learn was from my mistakes.” The couple has a similar approach to design. “But, having said that, we have our own styles,” explains Aanchal. “We worked on most things together; he played to his strengths and I to mine. For instance, while Sumeet did the overall material specification and space planning, I worked on the detailing of the overall look.”

In its earlier avatar, the chair was one normally seen at weddings, sourced from the flea market in New Delhi's Amar Colony market. It was first painted black and then blue for a hip makeover.





“DON'T SHY AWAY FROM USING BIG
PIECES OF FURNITURE. IT GIVES AN
UNCLUTTERED LOOK.”

HABITAT



A personal space

Aanchal's home is refreshingly casual, the perfect space for a party or even a solitary afternoon on the balcony, overlooking trees, a rarity in south Delhi. However, a lot of work has gone into the décor and every piece of furniture tells a story. For instance, the cement tiles on the living room wall were assembled by the couple, placed on glass to ensure the right amount of bubbles. Other pieces include a replica of the iconic Philippe Starck Ghost chair, a leather couch that's older than you realise and came from their old home, finds from flea markets, interesting furniture sourced online and Aanchal's own series of back-and-white photographs. "I carry a camera wherever I go," she remarks. The bar is also painted white and perhaps the colour helps to increase the perception of space.



The large windows let in the outdoors. The furniture is a mix of old and new, some sourced from flea markets as well as internationally. The artwork on the wall is by Gujarati artist KC Patel.



THE BAR IS PAINTED WHITE, INCREASING THE PERCEPTION OF SPACE IN THE COSY HOME.

The kitchen is a social space

There are several interesting elements that initially posed a challenge, but eventually worked to the owners' advantage. For instance, the small, open kitchen is currently at the centre of the apartment, making it a social space to hang out with friends while cooking, which Aanchal enjoys. However, its location was initially at the end of the house, where the main bedroom is, the pillars now working as a reason to partition a section of the room as a work area. Travel also broadens horizons and some of the large furniture is sourced from China, a country Aanchal maintains has a lot more to it than cheap, low-quality furniture. She says, "Exposure, coupled with travel to different parts of the world, opens your horizons to different design styles and sensibility, especially when you view things with a design-focussed outlook. China, Thailand and India are great in terms of sourcing. A lot of online portals in India have opened a whole new world."

The home has a lot of elements but succeeds in looking uncluttered. The knick knacks come from the couple's travels while the leather couch is from their former home.





According to Aanchal, "We sourced an innovative tile with a stone veneer on top for the living areas. The bedroom space, kitchen and bathrooms have an interesting combination of tiles."



A blank canvas to work on

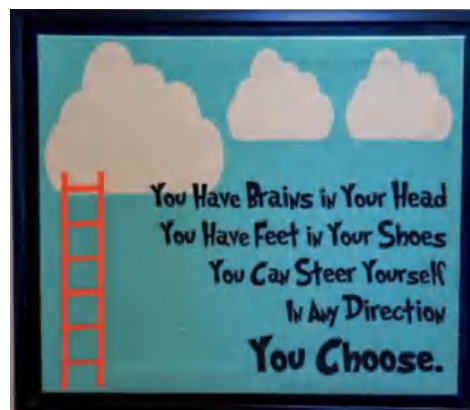
When Aanchal and Suneet started house-hunting, they were particular about finding an old house that would allow them the liberty of completely redoing it. "Also," explains Aanchal, "old houses offer more character over the newer builder creations which are essentially boxes. The tradeoff of lesser area is worthwhile. What clinched the deal was the splits levels and lots of natural light and the possibility of an open kitchen." The house was in a dilapidated condition and called for a complete makeover. A lot of the walls had to be move around to accommodate a house where spaces flowed into each other. "It looks bigger as the spaces flow into each other, sans any partitions. Lots of natural light and openings help the effect." Changing the old windows with newer, bigger glazed ones brought in a lot of light and energy. Was there anything on the wishlist that got left out? "We weren't able to incorporate more stores and a laundry. A bigger balcony would have been nicer, though we did sacrifice some covered area to add to it."



THE WALLPAPER FUNCTIONS AS AN ART WALL, ALLOWING THE CHILD TO DRAW FREESTYLE.

A functional approach

The home has a café-like vibe. Is that deliberate and something to do with the fact that Aanchal has designed interiors of cafes? She remarks, "I'm not sure, but I guess some design cues must creep in." Their daughter, four-and-a-half year old Ameerah's room is placed next to the couple's bedroom. It has the same uncluttered, yet approachable vibe as the rest of the home. Aanchal tells us, "The main focus was on functionality." Any tips on picking the right furniture? The interior designer recommends, "Don't shy away from using big pieces of furniture. Using a few big bold pieces rather than various small ones can give an uncluttered and spacious look." She also buys furniture online and seems to have a knack for picking the right stuff. She shares some advice, "It's better to be an informed customer while buying online. Never hesitate to ask customer care for design-related help. Choose portals which might have physical showrooms as you can generally check the quality if you want to."



The couple's daughter's room is uncluttered and allows the child to express her creativity on the art wall, while the bed can be made bigger. The balcony, which was made larger during renovations, overlooks the greens.





DESIGN NOTES ON WHITE PAPER

This house resembles a container, deliberately kept neutral to enhance art pieces and fluorescent colours. It belongs to a couple dedicated to the talents of tomorrow, where every room is a lesson in how a style is born.

Text by Martina D'amico, Photos by Paolo Riolzi





In the living room, on the left, three cult items of Cappellini are seen—Yuki, the snowflake screen, the blue Three Sofa and the lamp Big. The sofa and the grey armchair are by Ligne Roset, the carpet made out of bike inner tubes is produced by Nanimarquina. The yellow piece of furniture is Uni by Piero Lissoni for Cappellini. The ceiling lamp is Random Light by Moooi. The dining chairs add pops of colour.



Eclectic atmosphere

The white multiplies sunlight and has been broken down into all shades, from ice to milk. This is the starting point chosen by Antonello and Rita Fusetti, guiding the Polytechnic School of Design, in Via Ventura in Milan. The villa, which nurtures creativity and future talent, is on two floors, located in the green hinterland of Milan and focussed on neutrality of spaces. All floors are in white resin, except for the smoke-coloured stairs, and what strikes those entering is the height of the ceilings, the lack of internal walls and visual barriers. All these structural details are the result of a careful research of style.

There is a surprise element in every room. The white colour multiplies the sunlight.

A detail of the living room with the mezzanine. The parapet of the balcony is called a "lace fence", the bookshelf is by Lema, the pouf by Cerruti Baleri and the chaise-lounge by Cappellini. The armchair in the foreground is Ligne Roset, while the totem bookshelf is Ptolomeo by Bruno Rainaldi for Opinion Ciatti.



On the left, the kitchen It is by Boffi, with the universal holder Uten.silo by Vitra and, around the B&B table, are the chairs Bertoia by Knoll. Above, the bookshelf Nuvola Rossa is by Cassina, beside a table of Cappellini. Above, in the hallway, the revolving cabinet by Cappellini. Below, an ancient mirror on the yellow piece of furniture is by Piero Lissoni.



An eclectic atmosphere

The parapet has a metal lace floral pattern called Lace Fence, produced by Demakersvan. It has an aesthetic goal, but is at the same time functional, separating the inner part of the flight which combines the floors. To the elements that make this house a neutral “container”, the refinement of design details has been added, including a selection of iconic design pieces, spread out and mixed together with great harmony in every room. Colour spots, often fluorescent, are preferred; yellow for Uni, by Piero Lissoni, the suspended lacquered piece of furniture overlooking the living room, purple for Bird, the rocking chaise-longue by Tom Dixon, electric blue for the couch Three Sofa by Jasper Morrison. All spaces have an element of surprise. And it is certainly a challenge for the masters of the house who, in their school, welcome every year students from over 50 countries around the world to make a selection of the pieces to be surrounded by.

LIFESTYLE



by Sara

The child's room is intimate, yet bright. Throughout the house, the floors are in uniform white resin. The white background maintains neutrality, while the furniture and accessories keep it bright and lively, adding cheerful pops of colour through the home.



On the left, in the bedroom of little Sara, is the bed Honey by Molteni and pillows from Marimekko. Below, on the left, the chaise-longue Bird is by Tom Dixon for Cappellini. Below, the bathroom is seen with the bathtub Boffi and suspension vases by Teracrea.



In the relaxation area, flowers bloom in any season, on fabrics and on the sculpture screen.

An eclectic atmosphere

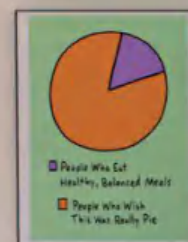
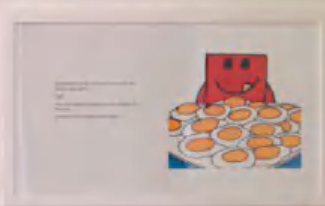
What comes in and what stays out? Antonello and Rita simply rely on instinct, their passions and long patient walks in the markets of modern antiques. The result is a house that weaves geometries and volumes in an ethereal elegance, with wide and unusual combinations. Even in little Sara's bedroom, for example, the red bed Honey by Molteni is matched to the lamp Tolomeo by De Lucchi-Fassina, the red chair is the Mr Bugatti by Cappellini, while the pillow is covered with a floral fabric by Marimekko. In the master bathroom, the linearity of the monoblock bathtub Boffi sets the stage for the pendant lamp inspired by a sculpture by Bruno Munari. An idea to copy are the screens. In the bathroom, it is a suspension divider with cylindrical vases, where plants and flowers bloom all year round. In the living room, it is a game of modules made in the shape of a snowflake; to compose and break down according to the season.



period charm

The Guildford home, a Victorian countryside property, is largely monochrome with accents of bold colour.

Photos courtesy Darren Chung / www.gregoryphillips.com





Gregory Phillips Architects were involved in the remodelling of this Victorian countryside property while maintaining some of the original features. The client's aspirations were for a bright, open-plan living space which did not fit with the pre-existing extension from the 1980s with narrow corridors and small rooms, somewhat of a rabbit warren. The design proposal was for a two-storey extension in place of the existing 1980s one. The living area has an original fireplace; a DHJ bookshelf, designed by Gregory Phillips Architects; round coffee-table from BoConcept; white and black chairs Orbital by Christophe Pillet for Modus at Nest; windows refurbished by Ventrolla Piano and a Scala black velvet daybed from Maisons de Monde. Architect Gregory Phillips has a

unique perspective when designing houses. Rather like the Renaissance man, he provides elegant tailored design solutions for each project from the architecture to the furniture to the landscape design. His projects include city homes and stylish country residences for a wide number of high-profile clients. Established in 1991, the interior design and architecture practice aims to provide a bespoke and holistic approach to high quality residential design both in the UK and internationally. With all his projects, the architect takes into consideration the client's lifestyle as he believes a house should be a sanctuary for the owners, as well as providing luxury and beauty. His work is modern, elegant and comfortable and uses traditional materials such as stone, wood and leather in a contemporary way.

The windows and glass door are in Fineline aluminium, the large L-shaped sofa Nicoletti is from Mac and Mac Interiors, while the smaller sofa is from BoConcept. The flooring is walnut engineered board from Ardern Hodges.

The architect believes in a bespoke and holistic approach, creating an elegant, modern and luxurious sanctuary for the owners.



CREATIVE SPACES



The kitchen unit is by Boffi, kitchen surface in brushed stainless steel and concrete grey, Zodiac Tulip dining table by Eero Saarinen; ceiling lights Shomei by Light Corporation; flooring from Ardern Hodges in walnut engineered board, while the green and white chairs are the client's own. The black velvet daybed Scala is from Maisons de Monde.





Unified spaces

To comply with the planner's demands for subtlety, a basement level was created to accommodate the swimming pool by excavating into the sloping lawn. The main house was completely gutted while the extension was being built. The most striking part of this project is the new steel and glass structure. This new space provides for a large, open-plan area on the upper level that relates to the main house and takes advantage of the views across the countryside, whilst the choice of white render for both buildings gives a visual connection between the old and new elements of the house. The indoor swimming pool opens onto a terrace and the garden beyond. Inside, the spaces flow beautifully into one another, thanks to the engineered walnut flooring that has been laid throughout, while the white-painted walls help to unify all the rooms. The theme is largely monochrome with accents of bold colour and period shades. The dining room is furnished with a mixture of traditional and modern pieces, including an 1840s table which is the same age as the house. The interior of the Victorian wing has been opened up and the rooms have been enlarged so they are in proportion with the high ceilings.

The design proposal was for

a two-storey extension in

place of the existing 1980s one.



The metal console, mirror, the dining table, pendant lights, fireplace, original sculptures and clock are the client's own. The dining chairs Mr Impossible, Eugeni Quitlet and Victoria Ghost by Philippe Starck are from Kartell, wooden shelves by DHJ Furniture, while the flooring is in walnut engineered board.

CREATIVE SPACES

The twin-set sinks are from Flaminia, on deck-mounted basins; mirrors from DHJ; double-ended bath tub is from Bette Starlet; rock sculpture is from Amethyst Cave; chrome towel rail from Eileen; Vola shower from Hansgrohe; glass screen by Majestic; Link toilet from Flaminia; while the Kirkstone flooring is in grey rivan slate.



The indoor swimming pool opens onto a terrace and the garden beyond.

A fusion of traditional and contemporary

The windows are in Fineline aluminium, while the tiling is in limestone paving from StoneAge. The environmental performance of the existing house had been improved where possible, working within the restrictions of its listed status. For example, the loft was extensively insulated, as were any new floors and, although the original sash windows had to be kept single glazed, they have been refurbished to reduce heat loss. The project took 15 months to complete and resulted in a fully refurbished Grade II-listed Victorian residence with a contemporary extension that both complements and contracts with the existing house. The clients use both the old and new parts of the house equally, for now it is a family home that is neither traditional nor contemporary, but a wonderful fusion of the two. It's an example of a traditional, period home that has successfully retained its old-world heritage feel, while making way for contemporary comforts and a luxurious lifestyle.



ART & DESIGN

Love tiles? We bring you the best from the recent Cersaie fair in Bologna, Italy. Check out artist Anitta Sethi's oils on canvas and Joris Laarman's innovations in three-dimensional printing.





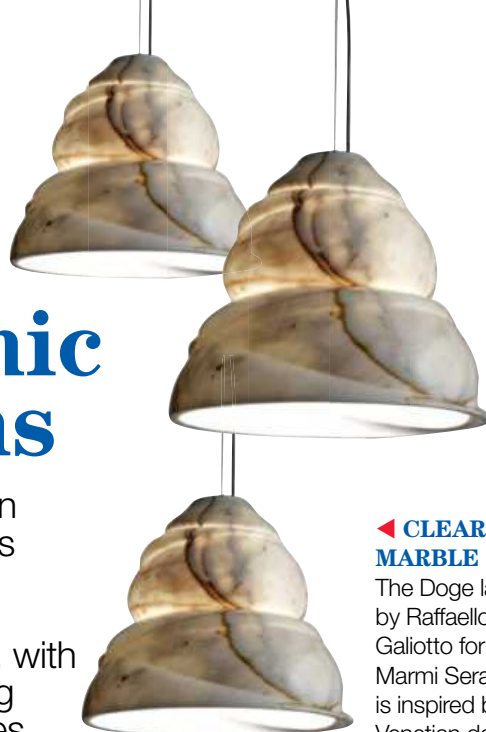
▲ **ROMANTIC** Designed by Carlo dal Bianco, romanticism and magnificent detailing are the traits of Bisazza Mosaico's Dalia Blu collection.



▲ **STYLE REVOLUTION** Lively, warm and eclectic, Cooperativa Ceramica d'Imola ceramics speak to an international public with a solid, hard-wearing product.

Ceramic dreams

At Cersaie 2015 in Bologna, Italy, tiles took inspiration from nature and technological flair, with designers creating innovative surfaces.



◀ **CLEAR MARBLE**

The Doge lamp by Raffaello Galiotto for Marmi Serafini is inspired by Venetian design.



▲ **INDUSTRIAL CHIC** The Regeneration Collection from Novedades is inspired by the industrial aesthetic, recalling the magic of spaces taken from the old factories of the Fifties. It's defined by neutral colours.



▲ **EXCLUSIVE MECHANICS** The Tonino Lamborghini Home project represents comprehensive living, including both furniture and tiles for prestigious villas in the most exclusive locations.

▼ **GLAMOUR RESTROOMS** Vitra applies design intelligence to the total bathroom concept, for all kinds of indoor and outdoor areas from the kitchen and living room to pools and terraces.



▲ **WARM ENERGY** Imola's Shades has drawn its inspiration from Mediterranean colours and nature. Solar hues of beige, yellow, orange and red mix with marine colours of white, aquamarine and blue.



◀ **CREATIVE DIALOGUE**

Translating traditional decorated cement tiles into a contemporary language, Cementine by Ceramiche Keope interweaves the past and present to give life to a multi-faceted collection. It's ideal for vintage style spaces. The collection takes its inspiration from the atmosphere and patterns of traditional Cementine tiles, interpreted in a contemporary manner.



▲ **A SPANISH SOUL** Apavisa's Terrazzo collection takes inspiration from the 15th century Venice and remaining chunks of marble floors used to pave the terraces that surrounded houses of construction workers.

► **INSPIRED BY NATURE** Hatria's Happy Hour slim washbasins come in three colours and a soft texture finish. The inspiration is nature and its perfumes, colours and surfaces.



▲ **ARISTOCRATIC** Mipa, a protagonist in the rediscovery of marble Graniglia tiles for floors and walls, combines artisan excellence and industrial quality.



Surreal themes

Influenced by the surrealist works of Dali and the Renaissance period, artist Anitta Sethi's works are a personal exploration.



Anitta Sethi worked in the garment trade for around 23 years, before deciding to nurture her passion for art in 2009 at Triveni Kala Sangam. Enthrilled by the human anatomy and concrete structures, she says, "I am in awe of human anatomy and am particularly drawn to the Renaissance period. But when it comes to compositions, I am in a strange way influenced by the surrealist works of Dali. I admire how he could make the bizarre convey normalcy with fluidity." Her art, believes Anitta, is personal. "I'm not really trying to send out a message. It's very personal. However, the stage that you are at in life automatically reflects in your art. At the age of 56, I am turning to spirituality and most of my works somehow convey this." She adds, "I'm quite intrigued by concrete structures, architecture and the perspectives involved. Basically, the sharp firm line work gives me a sense of security and confidence."

According to art curator Renu Rana, "Anitta Sethi's works are mature beyond her years of experience. The background and foreground in her compositions merge to make a composite whole. The chromatic arrangement is such that colours flow effortlessly, sectioned off by the firm lines." Anitta is drawn to colours of the earth. "This is where everything comes from and goes back to. All other colours are illusions." Some of her works are architectural in nature, using perspective as a tool, while others use distortion. Non-humans also find a place in her works, adding an element of fantasy. "It's all in the mind. It's a world that I've created within me," she explains.

Anitta's works are largescale and diptychs and triptychs are common to her oeuvre. Says the artist, who prefers oils with roller textures, "I enjoy working on medium sized canvases and diptychs. Medium-sized canvases are more approachable and humble, rather than large, mammoth size ones which are overwhelming. And diptychs add to the fantasy."



Artist Anitta Sethi prefers using oils with roller textures. Seen here are (from top) canvases titled **Free Fall**, **Connection** and **The Divided Path**.



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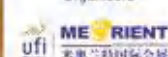
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BARE BONES

Inspired by nature, Joris Laarman prints three-dimensional experimental furniture, chiefly his Bone collection.



Joris Laarman and his partner and filmmaker Anita Star's lab has created experimental furniture and museum installations. The studio tinkers with craftsmen, scientists and engineers on the many new possibilities of upcoming technology. They are even in the process of printing a three-dimensional bridge. The digital age makes it possible to not just use nature as a stylistic reference, but to actually use the underlying principles to generate shapes like an evolutionary process. The Bone furniture project started in 2004 with research based on a software. The high-tech sculpting tool was used to create elegant shapes. The project was initially developed with the help of Droog and Friedmanbenda Gallery. All pieces were made possible with the help of digital fabrication. The Bone Chair was developed using a custom

developed 3D printed ceramic mould in which the complete chair could be cast in one single piece.

According to Laarman, "In a way, it quite precisely copies the way evolution constructs. We didn't use it to create the next world's most perfect chair, but as a high-tech sculpting tool to create elegant shapes with a sort of legitimacy. After a first try-out and calculation of a paper Bone Chair, the aluminium Bone Chair was first made in a series of seven. The process can be applied to any scale until architectural sizes in any material strength." His company MX3D develops metal-printing technology.



A DIGITAL AGE

Cultural connect: The design studio wants to add cultural meaning to technological progress and show the beauty of how things could work.

Architectural forms: The Chaise lounge, was developed at the workshop of Vincent de Rijk, known for his architectural models and expertise with resin. It was cast in a UV-resistant clear polyurethane, soft enough to shape itself to your body. Then came the Rocking and Armchair cast in a homemade recipe of marble powder and resin, both pieces printed in a part-3D mould. The Branch was cast in bronze, using a 3D-printed polymer positive. The Bridge table is CNC milled from blocks of aluminium and tabletop is made of tungsten carbide.



(Clockwise from top, right) The Nebula Flos, Laarman Leaf Table, Rocker, the Diamond table and Heatwave.

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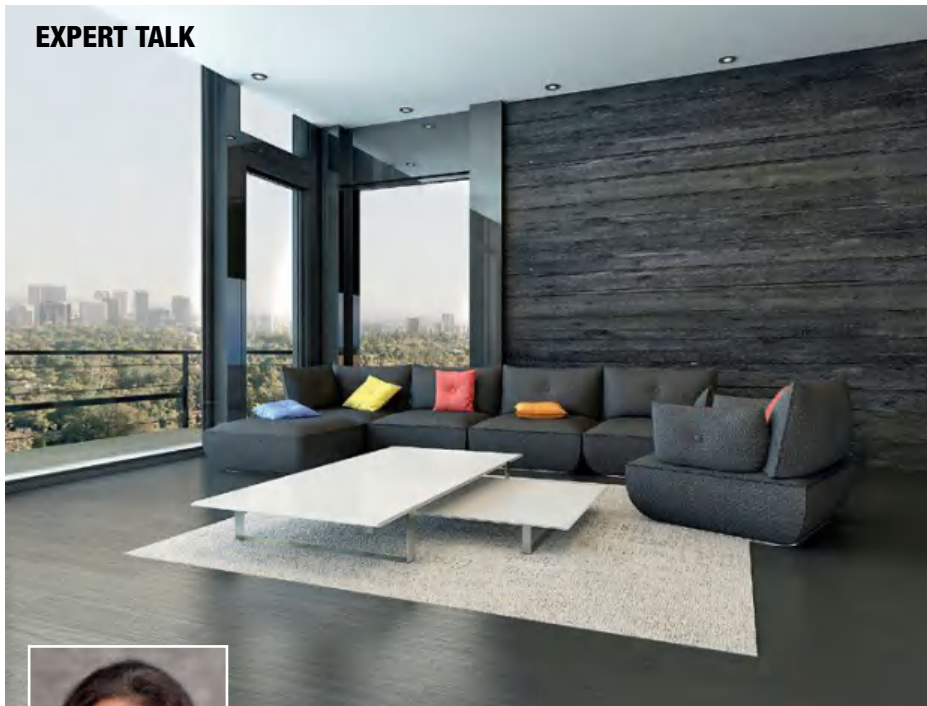
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Refurbishing your home this winter and can't decide which interior trend to go with? Adding wood to your interiors is a top trend this winter. Here are a few quick tips to bring beautiful nature into your home.

QUINTESSENTIAL ELEGANCE

Decorative veneers that are made of real wood bring you a step closer to nature. The Twenties' style with its metallic and mirrored surfaces is the talk of town this winter. Custom light fixtures, accent furniture pieces, and even ultra-modern wooden rugs are just a few interior accessory ideas that can be created using natural veneer. Now that the vintage look is back,

wood floors in veneers automatically uplift a living space.

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DESIGNER IN FOCUS



Abstract connect

Shantanu Garg specialises in transitional design and uses natural materials to create his products.

Architect and designer Shantanu Garg started out in 2007, taking up his first project and setting up his design studio at the age of 21. He enjoys working with natural and pure materials. "I like the texture and feel of wood, the look of marble and its aura in a space. I use a lot of handwork in my designs. Handpainting is among my preferred forms of art that can be used on walls, ceilings, art pieces, etc. We pay a lot of attention to fabrics we use. Upholstery covers and drapery do a lot to improve any space. We research the fabrics we use and develop our own combinations." Made-to-measure, he believes, transcends all boundaries today with bespoke homes being a cultivated lifestyle.

His Chariot Bed is an abstract extracted from a classic chariot prevalent in the ancient era of kings and queens as their royal mode of transport. "Seeking inspiration from this coveted carrier, the headboard has been adapted into a hood." The Noor chandelier, meanwhile, is a lighting installation "inspired from the famous Chandbali of Hyderabad". The crescent moon shape of the light is designed in black metal, antique brass and ruby coloured solid glass.



(Clockwise from top, right) Jewellery-inspired chandelier designed by Shantanu Garg, Jali panels, the Chariot bed, handpainted planters and delicate chandeliers.

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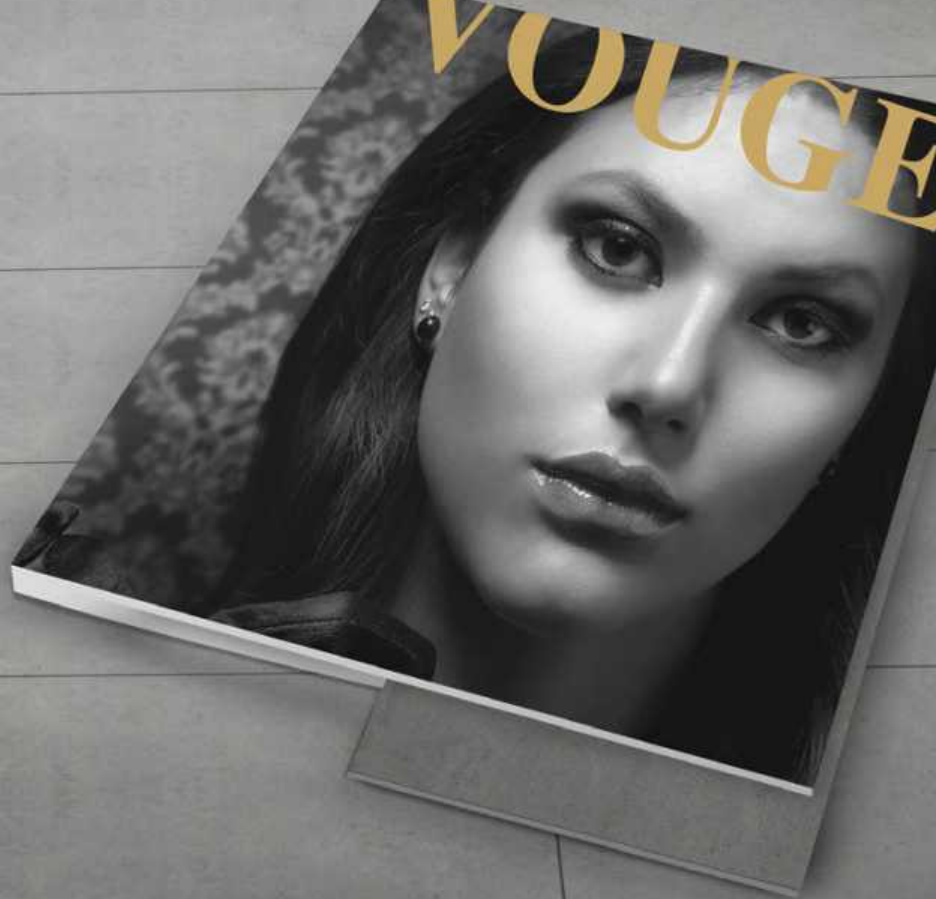
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